

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the office action mailed on August 12, 2004.

In the office action, the restriction requirement is made final and therefore claim 17 has been withdrawn.

Claim 2 has been canceled with the bulk of the limitations of claim 2 being added to amended claim 1. Claims 3-5 have been amended to accommodate for the cancellation of claim 2 and the amendments to the claim 1.

Claim 8 has been amended by eliminating redundant language and claims 10 and 11 have been amended to correct inconsistencies in language between claims 10 and 11 and claim 8.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claim 1 traverse the rejection based upon WO 00/1689 ("Schwartz") as Schwartz in no way teaches or suggests the connection of a plug seal to a body by a flexible member as recited in amended claim 1. An early action withdrawing the anticipation rejection of amended claim 1 based upon Schwartz is earnestly solicited.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 3-16 are in a condition for allowance and an early action so indicating is respectfully requested.

New formal drawings are submitted herewith as an appendix to this paper.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Dated: December 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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